



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

OF THE

ISLE OF AXHOLME RURAL DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR

1943.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

Lady and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of your district for the year 1943.

The area of the district is 51,104 acres.

The rateable value on 31st March, 1943, was £28,969.

The estimated net product of 1d. rate for the year 1943 was £113.

This is a purely rural and agricultural area with its associated businesses.

VITAL STATISTICS.

										Total	M	F
Births.												
Live Births (Legitimate)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	194	101	93
Live Births (Illegitimate)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	9	7
										Totals ...	210	100
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Total	M	F
Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	3	3
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27.7
Deaths.												
Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	176
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13.9
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—												
All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	47.6
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42.9
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100.0
Deaths from cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Deaths from measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	nil
Deaths from whooping cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	nil
Deaths from diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	nil

CLASSIFICATION OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

				M	F
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	...	...	...	2	3
Influenza	...	...	...	2	4
Cancer of Stomach	...	...	...	3	2
Cancer (Other Sites)	...	...	...	11	10
Diabetes	...	...	...	—	1
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	...	...	...	7	18
Heart	...	...	...	23	21
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	1	3
Bronchitis	...	...	...	7	7
Pneumonia	...	...	...	2	1
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	2	1
Digestive Disorders	...	...	...	2	2
Nephritis	...	...	...	3	5
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	—	1
Premature Births	...	...	...	2	2
Birth Malformations and Injuries	...	...	...	2	3
Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	...	1	—
Other Violent Causes	...	...	...	3	1
All Other Causes	...	...	...	11	7
Totals ...				84	92

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following table shows the number, age and sex incidence of new cases of Tuberculosis added to the register during the year:—

Age period.	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
0—5 years ...	—	—	—	—
5—10 years ...	—	—	2	1
10—20 years ...	2	2	—	—
20—30 years ...	2	—	—	—
30—40 years ...	1	—	—	—
40—50 years ...	—	—	—	—
50—60 years ...	—	—	—	—
60—70 years ...	—	1	—	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following cases of infectious diseases occurred in the District during 1943:—

Typhoid Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	nil
Paratyphoid Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	nil
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Smallpox ...	...	...	...	...	...	nil
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	69
Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	...	...	...	...	4
						124

ANTI-DIPHTHERIC IMMUNISATION.

The scheme for free immunisation against diphtheria of all children up to the age of 15 years is being encouraged and is proceeding very satisfactorily. The Lindsey County Council are responsible for the organisation of immunisation of children under school age and bear the cost. Parents can, however, still take their children to their local medical practitioner and the cost is borne by the Lindsey County Council. The scheme for the immunisation of all school children is in the hands of the Rural District Council.

The following statistics afford an indication of the progress made under the scheme:—

- Approximate number of children in area ... Under 5 years. 1040. 5—15 years. 2200.
Percentage of Children immunised:—
 At 30th June, 1942 ... per cent. 17.3. 36.8.
 At 20th January, 1943 ... 42.3. 59.1.
 At 31st December, 1943 ... 66.4. 78.0.
- At 31st December, 1943, 691 children under five years and 1716 children between five and fifteen years had had been immunised. The number of children immunised under the age of one year is almost negligible and if this age group was excluded from the above figures the 1—5 age group would show approximately 82 per cent. immunised.
- Number of Notifications of Diphtheria (Children under 15 years):—**
 1st January to 31st December, 1940—18 cases.
 1st January to 31st December, 1941—1 case.
 1st January to 31st December, 1942—6 cases.
 1st January to 31st December, 1943—1 case.

Only one case of diphtheria has so far been notified where the child has been immunised and this child recovered from the illness.

HOSPITAL AND HEALTH SERVICES.

Infectious Diseases.—Cases of infectious diseases occurring in the area are isolated at the County Isolation Hospital at Brumby, and should this not be available, accommodation can be secured at the Grimsby Isolation Hospital and Doncaster.

Should any cases of Smallpox occur they can be isolated at the County Isolation Hospital at Osgodby.

Tuberculosis.—Admission and treatment of cases of Tuberculosis can be obtained at Branston Hall Sanatorium, Brumby Isolation Hospital, Louth Tuberculosis Hospital and Foxby Hill Hospital at Gainsborough. Further provision for selected cases can be made at seaside Tuberculosis Hospitals and Sanatoria.

Ambulances are attached to these hospitals for the removal of cases of infectious disease.

Laboratory Facilities.—There is a County Laboratory at Lincoln where bacteriological examination of swabs and suspected cases of diphtheria is carried out; swabs of sputum in cases of tuberculosis and any other bacteriological examination necessary can also be obtained there.

The Public Health Officers of the Council are the Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector, both part time and remunerated partly by the Council and partly by Exchequer Grants.

Maternity and Child Welfare.—Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics are established throughout the area. The District Nurses attend and these Clinics receive regular and periodical inspection and supervision by a Medical Officer employed by the County Council. There expectant mothers, mothers and infants receive attention, supervision and advice.

Nursing.—There are four Nurses in the district who are also certified midwives. These Nurses are supported by their respective Nursing Associations. A grant is made by the County Council to these Nursing Associations, which undertake midwifery and certain other County Council services.

There is a Maternity Hospital at Scunthorpe where, if necessary, urgent maternity cases requiring hospital treatment may be admitted under an arrangement with the Lindsey County Council or by private arrangement.

HOUSING.

Total Number of New Houses erected during the year ... Nil

Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year:—

- Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 14
- Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 20
- No of dwellinghouses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 14

Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices:—

Number of Defective Dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	6
---	---

Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—

Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied...	4
Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) by (owners)	2

Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV.—Overcrowding.

(a) (1) Number of dwellinghouses overcrowded at the end of the year	41
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	41
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	194
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	Nil
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	Nil
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	Nil
(d) Number of houses again overcrowded after being previously relieved	Nil
Totals from year ending 31st December, 1939: no further action has been taken.	

Common Lodging Houses.—Number registered under bye-laws Nil

Canal Boats used as Dwellinghouses.—Number registered under Acts. ... Not a Registered Authority.

Movable Dwellings, Tents, Vans, etc.:—

Number inspected during the year	Nil
---	-----

Bakehouses.

Number in district	7
Number of underground bakehouses	Nil
Number of inspections	3
Contraventions of Factory Acts	Nil
Defects remedied	Nil

Slaughterhouses.—Number on register 22
Number of inspections Nil

Cowsheds.—Number on register 183
Number of inspections 7
Contraventions of regulations 25 per cent.
Contraventions remedied Nil
Number of milk cows in district 720

Dairies and Milk Shops.—Number on register 90
Number of inspections 7
Contraventions of regulations 30 per cent.
Contraventions remedied Nil
Any instance of disease attributed to milk during the year No

Unsound Food.—All animals slaughtered during the year have been for home consumption.

Unsound food surrendered: 40 lbs. beef, 70 lbs. ham and bacon, 4 st. fish.

Offensive Trades.—Number of premises in district Nil

Water Supply.—All parishes in the rural area are provided with public piped water supply and the consumption of water during the year 1943 shows a substantial increase as compared with the previous year, principally attributable to construction of Service buildings and war-time conditions generally. A few miles of water mains have been laid in connection with the war-time buildings.

Water main extensions have also been executed by private owners and in one case by the Council jointly which will result in supplies being made available to four outlying farms and a few cottages. The Council have assisted in the carrying out of these works and the mains laid are to vest and become the property of the District Council.

General.—The Rural District Council have recently instructed a chartered civil engineer to prepared reports of preliminary surveys of the Council's district indicating the works required to afford a water supply to outlying farms and other properties, and in connection with sewerage and sewage disposal in all parishes. Such reports, when received, are to receive the Council's consideration as a post-war measure in the light of Command Paper No. 615, "A National Water Policy."

The question of public scavenging for all parishes in the rural area operated by the District Council is also receiving the Council's consideration.

Closets.—Number of houses with privy vaults in district 50 per cent.
Number of houses with pail closets in district 40 per cent.
No. of pail closets substituted for privy vaults 1
No. of pail closets repaired 3
No. of houses with water closets in district 12 249
No. of water closets substituted for dry receptacles 249 12
No. of water closets repaired Nil

Drains.

Drains, examined, tested, exposed, etc. to all new buildings, etc.
Drains unstopped, repaired, trapped, etc. 15
New soil pipes or ventilating shafts fixed to all new W.C.'s

Sewers.—New lengths of sewer laid 400 yards

Cesspools.—Emptied, cleansed, etc. by owners as required.

Disinfection.—Rooms disinfected 19
(a) Ordinary infectious disease 16
(b) Tuberculosis 3

House Refuse.

Number of covered ashpits 40 per cent.
Number of uncovered ashpits 40 per cent.
Number of bins substituted for ashpits Nil
Number of houses using bins 20 per cent.

Parish of Crowle: Removed by Public Scavenger. Pans and Dustbins weekly; middens, ashpits, etc. every two months. Remainder of area by householders as required.

No. of complaints of non-removal 20

Method of final disposal is by controlled tipping on arable land, gardens, etc. The existing arrangements for refuse removal are not satisfactory.

Nuisances.—Number of nuisances during the year:—

(1) Abated as result of informal action by Sanitary Inspector	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
(2) Reported to Council:—												
(a) Statutory notice issued	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
(b) Statutory notice not issued	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

Details of Nuisances abated (after informal intimation) :—

Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Accumulation of refuse	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Foul ditches, ponds and stagnant water	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15

EMERGENCY WAR TIME HOUSING PROGRAMME FOR 1944.

The following housing constructions have been carried out in early 1944:—

Ministry of Health circular 2766, of the 4th February, 1943, dealing with the question of the housing of agricultural workers, provided that the number allocated to this rural district was 22 houses. The District Council have carried out the provisions of the Circular and have erected four agricultural workers' cottages at Belton, four at Crowle, four at Epworth, four at Haxey, two at Owston Ferry and four at Wroot. At the present time these cottages are completed and occupied. The houses are well constructed and in lay-out and design well suited for agricultural workers, though they have proved very costly to construct, attributable to war-time conditions.

I have the honour to remain, yours faithfully,

Epworth,

ARTHUR M. MACGREGOR,

July, 1944.

M.B., Ch.,B.

Isle of Axholme Rural District Council.

BENJAMIN SHAW, A.S.A.A.

CLERK, FINANCE
and
CHIEF RATING OFFICER

Téléphone - EPWORTH 54.

Council Offices,

Epworth,

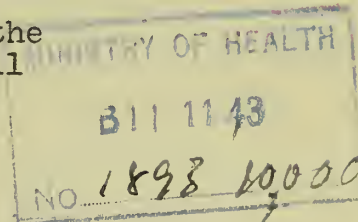
Near Doncaster.

Your Ref :

Our Ref :

Enclosures :

EXTRACT from the Minutes of a Meeting of the Public Health Committee held at the Council Offices, Epworth, on Tuesday, the 2nd November, 1943.



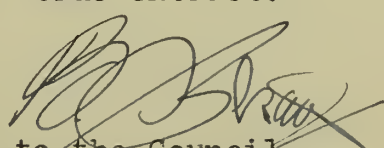
Present:-

Councillor W.J. Barnard (Chairman)
Councillors P.W. Frewin, H. Rimington, F.J. Knowles and J. Wright.

ANNUAL REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR YEAR 1942. Copies of the Medical Officer's Report for the year 1942 were handed to the members, and such Report is to be incorporated in, and form part of, the Minutes. Consideration was given to the various matters arising out of the Report, particular attention being given to the Medical Officer's suggestion that in view of the difficulties now experienced in connection with organisation and administration, the immunisation of schoolchildren in the 5-15 age group should be operated through the County Council, who were now responsible for the immunisation of the under school age group. Members felt that the work undertaken through the District Council in connection with Immunisation, had shown very good results, and if some improvement could be made to facilitate better organisation in connection with the immunisation of children in the 5-15 age group, this part of the Scheme could be retained by the District Council. It was considered that as the County Council were experiencing difficulties in connection with staffing for the School Medical Services, the time was not opportune for the Medical Officer's suggestion as to the transfer of responsibility for immunisation of schoolchildren to the County Council, to be adopted.

RECOMMENDED that (1) the Medical Officer's Report for the year 1942 be adopted subject to the deletion of the words "Should this meet with the approval of the Council I shall be pleased to suggest this point to the higher authority" under the heading "Anti-Diphtheric Immunisation" on the second page and (2) that in order to facilitate better organisation in connection with the immunisation of children in the 5-15 age group the County Council be asked to make arrangements for the Head Teachers of the Schools in the Area to furnish to the Clerk of the Council a half-yearly return showing the children entering school indicating in respect of each child on the return whether he or she has been immunised prior to admission the purpose of the return being to allow the Medical Officer to make arrangements for immunisation to take place on specified days with the District Nurse or Health Visitor in attendance.

I hereby certify the above to be a true extract.


Clerk to the Council.
9th November, 1943.

